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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
	:	Examiner: V. Rudolph
MASANORI ARITOMI)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2624
Application No.: 10/023,750)	
	:	Confirmation No.: 5081
Filed: December 21, 2001)	
	:	
For: PRINTING METHOD AND)	
EXECUTING PRINTING IN	:	
PLURAL OUTPUT FORMS)	February 7, 2006

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Sir:

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to Applicant's undersigned representative during the telephone interview conducted on February 6, 2007. During the interview, the outstanding Office Action with a mail date of January 24, 2007 was discussed. No agreement was reached regarding the claims.

In the Office Action, Claims 32 and 36 to 37 were rejected as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,373,588 (Fischer) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,512,592 (Simpson) and U.S. Patent No. 5,481,353 (Hicks) During the interview, Applicant's representative respectfully traversed the rejection on the following grounds.

Applicant directed the Examiner's attention to Claim 32 which is representative of the independent claims. Claim 32 is directed to a control method for a

printing system, the printing system including an information processing apparatus and a print device, the information processing apparatus having a printer driver designated a presentation mode as a print setting and the print device capable of executing an ordinary print process or a presentation-mode print process which makes presentation material and distribution material. The method comprises performing by the information processing apparatus a job issue step of issuing a single print job according to print setting set by a user via Graphical User Interface of the printer driver wherein said information processing apparatus adds the specific command that designates the presentation mode to the single job, the specific command is a command to designate the presentation-mode print process, a command to designate the number of copies of the distribution material, and a color setting command of the distribution material. In response, the print device performs a judgment step of judging whether or not the single print job contains a specific command which designates the presentation mode; a step of, in a case where it is judged in said judgment step that the single print job does not contain the specific command, executing an ordinary print process; and a step of, in a case where it is judged in said judgment step that the single print job contains the specific command, executing the presentation-mode print process which makes presentation material and a distribution material corresponding to the specific command in the single print job that designates the presentation mode.

The primary reference, Fischer, arguably discloses a page printer 10 having a banner page manager 60. The pager printer 10 receives print jobs from a host 45 that may or may not include a banner page. (See FIG. 2A to FIG. 2D). The banner page manager parses the print jobs to determine if a banner page is present. If so, the banner page manager performs special processing of the banner page. As one example, the

special processing may include multiple copy processing in which the banner is printed independently of the other pages in the print job. (See Fischer, FIG. 5). However, there is no disclosure or suggestion in Fischer that the paper printer operates on the print job other than to selectively process the banner page. Specifically, there is no suggestion that the printer, using presentation material data included in the single print job (for example, just the documents representing an overhead presentation), makes presentation material and the distribution material corresponding to the specific command in the single print job that designates the presentation mode.

Simpson arguably discloses a multiple copy (“MOPY”) function as well. In Simpson, it is a host 104 that determines that a print job contains multiple copies to be printed, strips the copies out, and then sends a single “copy” plus a copy count to the printer. (See FIG. 4). However, as in Fischer, there is no disclosure or suggestion in Simpson that the printer, using presentation material data included in the single print job, makes presentation material and the distribution material corresponding to the specific command in the single print job that designates the presentation mode.

Hicks discloses constructing a print job having transparencies, dividers, master sets and handout sets from scanned documents. However, as in Fischer and Simpson, there is no disclosure or suggestion in Hicks that the printer, using presentation material data included in the single print job, makes presentation material and the distribution material corresponding to the specific command in the single print job that designates the presentation mode.

Therefore, modifying Fischer in light of Simpson and Hicks as suggested in the Office Action (which the Applicant does not acknowledge as being proper) creates at best a system where a complex print job, including a first and second class of print data (for example, Fischer's banner as a first class and Fischer's print pages as a second class), is generated by a host, and that print job is transmitted to a printer along with a copy count used to print the second class of print data. However, in such a system, the second class of print data is fully specified in the complex print job while the only processing done by the printer is printing multiple copies of the second class of data in accordance with the copy count.

During the interview, Applicant's representative attempted to propose several amendments to the claims in order to further clarify the claimed invention and move the prosecution of the case forward. However, the Examiner's supervisor requested that these be presented in the form of a proposed Amendment After Final Rejection. Without admitting the propriety of the determination of finality of the present Office Action, Applicant's representative has prepared a set of proposed amendments for discussion with the Examiner.

In the proposed amendments, it has been clarified that the distribution materials are made by the print device using presentation material data in the single print job. In light of the overlooked request for interview submitted with the last amendment to the claims after a non-final rejection, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner review the proposed amendments and contact Applicant's representative as indicated below to discuss the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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PROPOSED CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend Claims 32 to 38 as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, now read as follows:

1. to 31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently amended) A control method for a printing system, the printing system including an information processing apparatus and a print device, the information processing apparatus having a printer driver designated a presentation mode as a print setting and the print device capable of executing an ordinary print process or a presentation-mode print process which makes presentation material and distribution material, the method comprising:

performing by the information processing apparatus:

a job issue step of issuing a single print job according to print setting set by a user via Graphical User Interface of the printer driver;

performing by the print device:

a judgment step of judging whether or not the single print job contains a specific command which designates the presentation mode;

a step of, in a case where it is judged in said judgment step that the single print job does not contain the specific command, executing an ordinary print process; and

a step of, in a case where it is judged in said judgment step that the single print job contains the specific command, executing the presentation-mode

print process which makes presentation material and the [[a]] distribution material from presentation material data included in the single print job corresponding to the specific command in the single print job that designates the presentation mode, wherein said information processing apparatus adds the specific command that designates the presentation mode to the single print job, the specific command is a command to designate the presentation-mode print process, a command to designate the number of copies of the distribution material made from the presentation material data included in the single print job, and a color setting command of the distribution material.

33. (Currently amended) A control method for the printing system according to Claim 32, wherein, in the case where the presentation-mode print process is executed, said method further comprising:

performing by the print device:

a step of temporarily storing print data of the print job in a memory of a print device;

a step of executing color setting of the presentation material according to the temporarily stored print data, and a step of printing the presentation material;

a step of executing color setting of the distribution material according to the temporarily stored print data, and a step of executing an N-in-1 layout process for the distribution material;

a step of setting the number of copies set for the distribution material, as the number of prints; and

a step of printing the distribution material based on said step of executing the color setting of the distribution material, said step of executing the N-in-1 layout process and said step of setting the number of prints.

34. (Currently amended) A control method for the printing system according to Claim 33, wherein each of said step of executing the color setting of the presentation material and said step of executing the color setting of the distribution material is a step of selecting either monochrome printing or color printing.

35. (Currently amended) A control method for the printing system according to Claim 33, further comprising a stapling execution step of executing stapling, wherein said step of printing the presentation material is adapted to execute the printing on a transparent sheet, and

wherein said stapling execution step is adapted, even if it is instructed to execute the stapling, not to execute the stapling of the presentation material but to execute the stapling of the distribution material.

36. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program capable of execution by a computer for a control method for a printing system, the printing system including an information processing apparatus and a print device, the information processing apparatus having a printer driver designated presentation mode as a print setting and the print device capable of executing an ordinary

print process or a presentation-mode print process which makes presentation material and a distribution material, the method comprising:

performing by said information processing apparatus:

a job issue step of issuing a single print job according to print setting set by a user via Graphical User Interface of the printer driver;

performing by said print device:

a judgment step of judging whether or not the single print job contains a specific command which designated the presentation mode;

a step of, in a case where it is judged in said judgment step that the single print job does not contain the specific command, executing an ordinary print process; and

a step of, in a case where it is judged in said judgment step that the single print job contains the specific command, executing the presentation-mode print process which makes presentation material and the [[a]] distribution material from presentation material data included in the single print job corresponding to the specific command in the single print job that designates the presentation mode,

wherein said information processing apparatus adds the specific command that designates the presentation mode to the single print, the specific command is a command to designate the presentation-mode print process, a command to designate the number of copies of the distribution material made from the presentation material data included in the single print job, and a color setting command of the distribution material.

37. (Currently amended) A ~~print~~ printing system, the printing system including an information processing apparatus and a print device, the information processing apparatus having a printer driver designated a presentation mode as a print setting and the print device capable of executing an ordinary print process or a presentation-mode print process which makes presentation material and distribution material,

the information processing apparatus comprising

a job issue unit adapted to issue a single print job according to print setting set by a user via Graphical User Interface of the printer driver; and the print device comprising:

a judgment unit adapted to judge whether or not the single print job contains a specific command which designates the presentation mode;

a unit adapted to, in a case where it is judged by said judgment unit that the single print job does not contain the specific command, execute an ordinary print process; and

a unit adapted to, in a case where it is judged by said judgment unit that the single print job contains the specific command, execute the presentation-mode print process which makes the presentation [[the]] material and the [[a]] distribution material from presentation material data included in the single print job corresponding to the specific command in the single print job that designates the presentation mode,

wherein said information processing apparatus adds the specific command that designates the presentation mode to the single print job, the specific command is a command to designate the presentation-mode print process, a command to designate the number of copies of the distribution material made from the presentation material data included in the single print job, and a color setting command of the distribution material.

38. (Previously presented) A print system according to Claim 37, wherein, in the case where the presentation-mode print process is executed, said print device further comprises:

a unit adapted to temporarily store print data of the print job in a memory of said print device;

a unit adapted to execute color setting of the presentation material according to the temporarily stored print data, and a unit adapted to print the presentation material;

a unit adapted to execute color setting of the distribution material according to the temporarily stored print data, and a unit adapted to execute an N-in-1 layout process for the distribution material;

a unit adapted to set the number of copies set for the distribution material, as the number of prints; and

a unit adapted to print the distribution material based on the color setting executed by said unit adapted to execute the color setting of the distribution material, the N-in-1 layout process executed by said unit adapted to execute the N-in-1 layout process, and the number of prints set by said unit adapted to set the number of prints.

39. (Previously presented) A print system according to Claim 38, wherein each of said unit adapted to execute the color setting of the presentation material and said unit adapted to execute the color setting of the distribution material is a unit adapted to select either monochrome printing or color printing.

40. (Previously presented) A print system according to Claim 38, said print device further comprising a stapling execution unit adapted to execute stapling,

wherein said unit adapted to print the presentation material executes the printing on a transparent sheet, and

wherein, even if it is instructed to execute the stapling, said stapling execution unit does not execute the stapling of the presentation material but executes the stapling of the distribution material.